

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER 34800 BOB WILSON DRIVE SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92134-5000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6224 Ser PFA/0043

JAN 1 0 2007

Dear USS RONALD REAGAN Tiger Cruise Participant or Parent/Guardian:

I want to follow-up on our letter of 10 Aug 2006 to you regarding possible exposure to an active-duty service member with active tuberculosis (TB) onboard USS RONALD REAGAN this summer.

Since our earlier letter, we and Centers for Disease Control personnel have carefully followed Tiger cruise participants who were identified as having berthing assignments near the ill service member (those Tigers are considered "close contacts" and were separately contacted by CDC). As mentioned in our previous correspondence, it can take 8-10 weeks before a tuberculin skin test becomes positive after exposure to an active TB case. Skin testing of the close-contact Tigers, as well as of the active duty service members onboard the ship, indicates little or no evidence of recent TB infection. This is also the case for the overall group of Tigers who provided screening results to us.

Based on the test results already obtained, we recommend no further testing of tiger cruise participants, except for those previously identified as close contacts.

We appreciate your patience and understanding. If you have further questions about TB screening, please contact your healthcare provider, your local public health department, or our support team at 800-543-6523 or email TB@nepmu5.med.navy.mil. Also, general information about tuberculosis is available on the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/tb.

B. G. BRANNMAN

Rear Admiral (Lower Half) Senior Health Care Executive United States Navy

Commander